

Appl. No. 09/635,449  
Amendment dated April 4, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of December 2, 2004

NIP-189

**REMARKS / ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1, 3-8, 11, 12, 25 and 26 remain pending in this application. Claims 13-16 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

**35 U.S.C. §112 and Claim Objections**

The claims have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions to overcome the Examiner's rejections under these sections.

**35 U.S.C. §103**

The rejection of claims 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims without prejudice or disclaimer.

**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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